



## Fact Sheet

## Cleanup near Lilly Freeman Elementary School

East St. Louis, IL

February 2002

### METRO-EAST LEAD COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP



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EPA began residential cleanups at two sites near elementary schools in East St. Louis, at a total cost of about \$200,000

Site 1 is near an abandoned lead facility at 917 Walnut St. The clean-up area is in a mixed residential and commercial area near metal recyclers, open fields, and several small businesses. The site is only a half mile from St. Mary's Hospital and a quarter mile southwest of Lilly Freeman Elementary School.



Tree chipping

The cleanup required conducting initial safety precautions such as mowing, cutting, chipping brush, and centralizing surface debris for disposal.

EPA developed a Site Safety Plan and held meetings with East St. Louis City officials and fire department representatives before starting work. The site project extended into a surrounding residential area after additional testing

revealed elevated lead levels in the soil. About 1,200 tons of low-level lead-contaminated soil was hauled from the site with 140 cubic yards of scattered surface debris and 23 tires. About 1,064 tons of clean soil



Removing contaminated soil

was graded across the site and grass seed was planted.

The approximately \$111,000 project cost was paid

by EPA, an active partner in the Metro-East Lead Collaborative Partnership.

At Site 2, EPA has removed 1,664 tons of lead-contaminated soil from the InterCoastal Paint Superfund Site, 1300 Walnut St., at a cost of nearly \$91,000 since November 2001.

St. Mary's Hospital is about a half mile northwest of the tax-exempt site, which is owned by East St. Louis School District 189. Lilly Freeman Elementary School, across Walnut Street from the site, is surrounded by residences.

This site comprises three parcels:

- Parcel 1 - lots 1 through 59 in Block 4 of the Hotel Place addition
- Parcel 2 - part of vacated Thirteenth Street in Block 4 of the Hotel Place addition
- Parcel 3 - lots 37, 38, 39, and 40 of Block 20 of the Guignon & Greenwoods Subdivison

EPA extended the site project to a nearby residential area after testing revealed elevated lead levels in the soil above the federal action level of 400 milligrams per kilograms. A former paint facility has been excavated, backfilled, and seeded with grass. The excavated material has been taken to a landfill permitted to accept low-level lead-contaminated materials



Soil excavation in East St. Louis